

MARVEL
COMICS



NOV
#2

THE NEXT GENERATION
OF **AVENGERS!**

NEXT

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

DO OUR NEW **HEROES**
HAVE ENOUGH **POWER**
TO STOP A DEADLY
ALIEN INVADER?!

FEATURING:
THE MENACE OF THE
SPACE-BORN KREE,
AND...

INTRODUCING
EARTH SENTRY

DEFALCO

FRENZ

BREEDING

mcnabb

FRENZ
BREEDING

WELCOME ABOARD, FAITHFUL ONE! GRAB YOURSELF A QUICK SNACK AND A REFRESHING DRINK, BECAUSE YOU'RE GOING TO BE ROOTED TO YOUR CHAIR FOR THE NEXT MANY MINUTES AS WE EMBARK ON ANOTHER THRILL-FILLED, CHILL-LADEN ADVENTURE FEATURING THE NEXT GENERATION OF EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES...

A NEXT

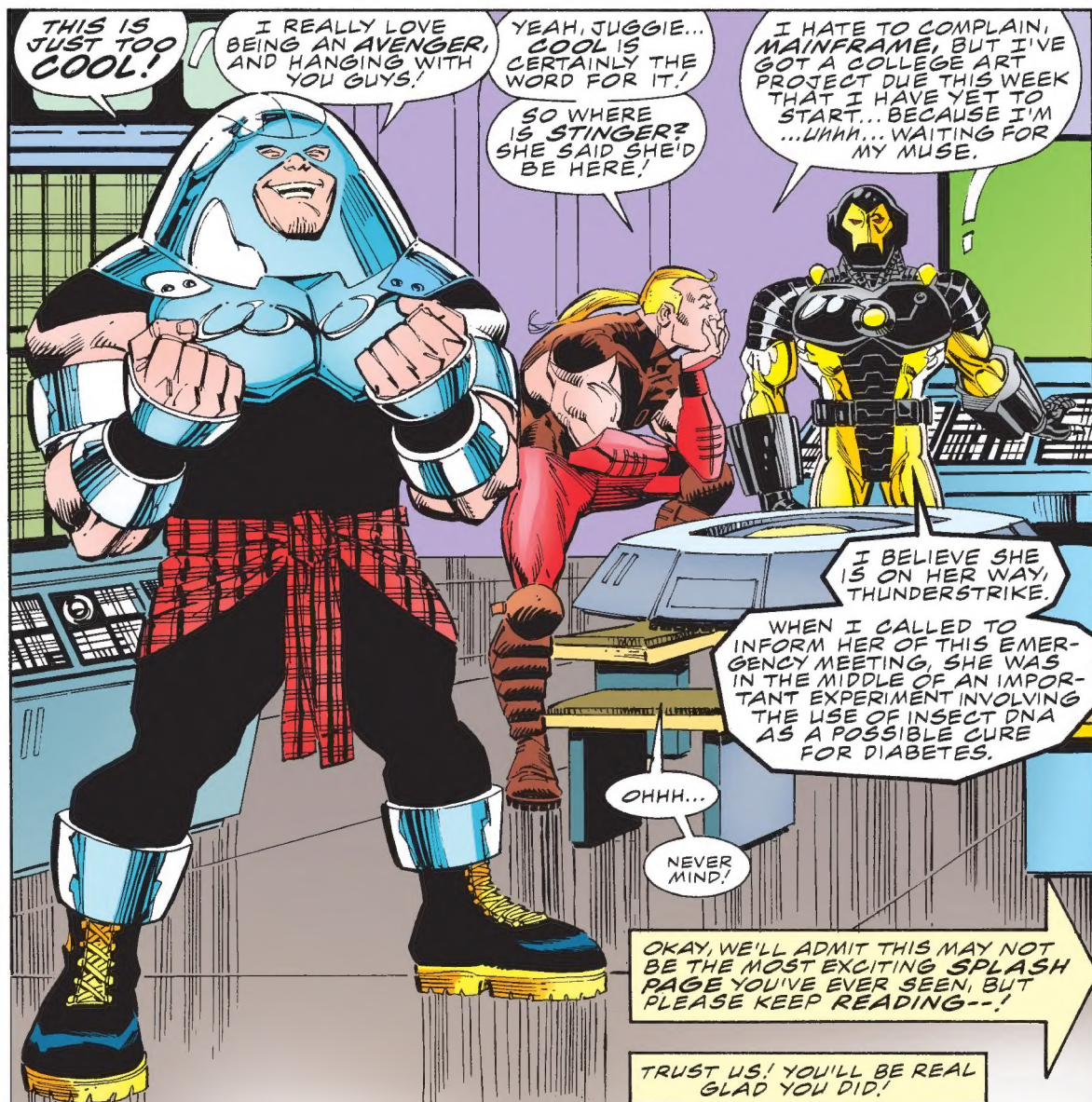
TOM DEFALCO & RON FRENZ
WORDS / PLOT / PENCILS

BRETT BREEDING
FINISHED ART
BOB HARRAS—CHIEF KREE

JIM NOVAK
CALLIGRAPHY

BOB SHAREN
COLOR ARTIST

SUDDENLY... THE SENTRY!





YO, 'STRIKE! DID I TELL YOU THAT I RECENTLY RAN INTO JUBILEE AND THE UNCANNY X-PEOPLE?*

--COOL?!

WE FOUGHT THIS LADY WHO HAD THESE WILD POWERS, AND IT WAS ALL SO VERY--

WHEN MY DAD WAS THUNDERSTRIKE, HE GOT TO PAL WITH CAPTAIN AMERICA, GIANT-MAN AND THOR!

*AS SHOWN IN J2 #2-- ON SALE SOON!

ME, I'M STUCK WITH MR. ENTHUSIASM!

EVEN AS THE PRESENT-DAY JUGGERNAUT PRATTLES ON, WE'LL TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO PEER INTO THE PRIVATE LABORATORY OF SCOTT AND CASSANDRA LANG...

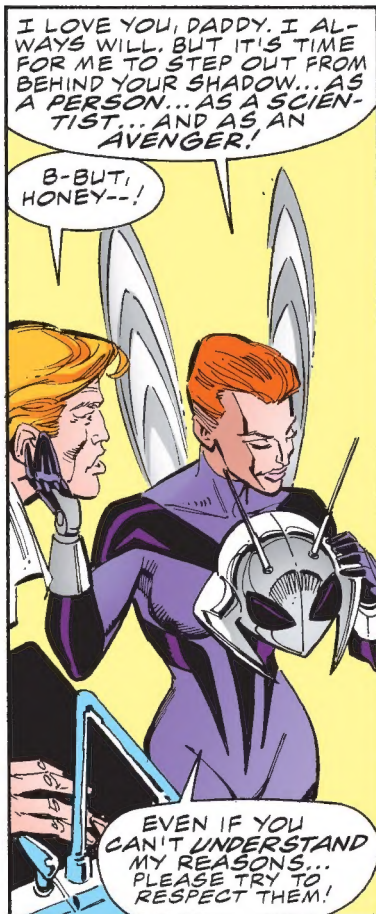
I DON'T LIKE THIS, CASSIE! IT WAS BAD ENOUGH WHEN YOU EMPLOYED DR. PYM'S WORK TO IMPLANT WINGS ON YOURSELF--

--BUT NOW YOU EXPECT ME TO SIT BACK WHILE YOU PLAY AT BEING A SUPER HERO!

PLAY?!

THANKS FOR THE SUPPORT, DAD.

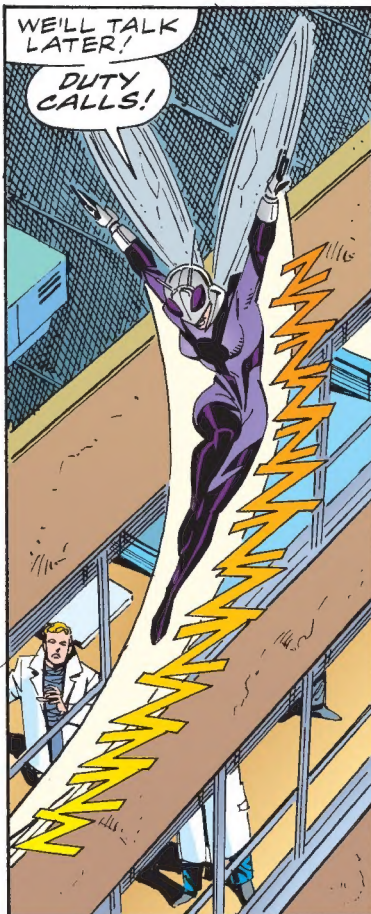
THE IMPLICATION THAT I'M JUST A PETULANT LITTLE GIRL PLAYING DRESS-UP MAKES MY DECISION EVEN MORE... NECESSARY.



I LOVE YOU, DADDY. I ALWAYS WILL, BUT IT'S TIME FOR ME TO STEP OUT FROM BEHIND YOUR SHADOW... AS A PERSON... AS A SCIENTIST... AND AS AN AVENGER!

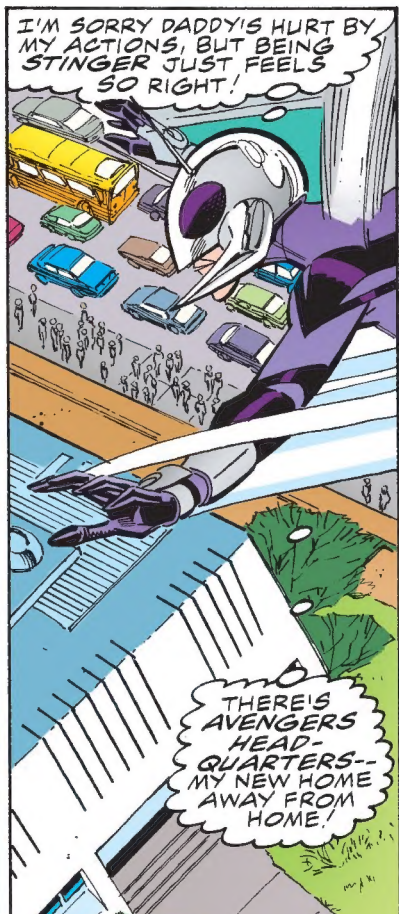
B-BUT, HONEY--!

EVEN IF YOU CAN'T UNDERSTAND MY REASONS... PLEASE TRY TO RESPECT THEM!



WE'LL TALK LATER!

DUTY CALLS!



I'M SORRY DADDY'S HURT BY MY ACTIONS, BUT BEING STINGER JUST FEELS SO RIGHT!

NO THERE'S AVENGERS HEAD-QUARTERS-- MY NEW HOME AWAY FROM HOME!

LANDING AMID THE SPRAWLING COMPLEX, STINGER QUICKLY JOINS THE OTHERS, AND THEN...

WHAT'S THE BIG PROBLEM?

AS YOU PROBABLY ALREADY KNOW-- AND THIS HOLOGRAPH CLEARLY ILLUSTRATES--THE PLANET EARTH IS PRESENTLY SURROUNDED BY AN ORBITAL DEFENSIVE GRID.

YEAH, I REMEMBER READING ABOUT IT IN NOW MAGAZINE A FEW YEARS AGO.

APPROXIMATELY TWELVE HOURS AGO, AN UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT-- WHICH COULD HAVE BEEN A SMALL METEOR OR AN ALIEN SPACECRAFT-- WAS DETECTED AND FIRED UPON BY THE GRID.

APPARENTLY THE ASSAULT CAUSED THE OBJECT TO SPLIT IN TWO... BECAUSE SATELLITE SURVEILLANCE NOTED BOTH A PRIMARY AND SECONDARY CRASH SITE IN WASHINGTON NATIONAL PARK.

AS LUCK WOULD HAVE IT, A TEAM OF SCIENTISTS FROM THE MARIA STARK FOUNDATION IS PRESENTLY WITHIN MILES OF BOTH SITES.

THEY WERE IN THE PARK TO PERFORM EXPERIMENTS IN REFORESTATION TECHNIQUES, BUT THEIR PROJECT LEADER-- DR. WILLIAM FOSTER-- BELIEVES WE SHOULD INVESTIGATE THE CRASH SITES.

BILL FOSTER?! HANK PYM'S FORMER ASSISTANT?

I NEVER HEARD OF THE MAN, BUT I'M REAL CURIOUS WHY HE CALLED US.

IF THE OBJECT WAS BROUGHT DOWN BY THE DEFENSIVE GRID, I'D THINK THE MILITARY WOULD WANT FIRST SHOT AT IT.

THEY DO, BUT WE CAN MOBILIZE FASTER. I BELIEVE WE HAVE A TEN HOUR JUMP ON THEM BEFORE THEY "SANITIZE" THE AREA--

--AND OBLITERATE ANYTHING OR ANYONE THAT MAY HAVE SURVIVED IMPACT.

AND NOW, THROUGH THE MAGIC OF COMICS, WE'LL WHISK OVER TO THE AFOREMENTIONED STATE PARK...

ENOUGH DOUBLE-TALK, DAD! I STILL SAY I SHOULD HAVE FLOWN WALT AND CAROL TO THE CRASH SITE.

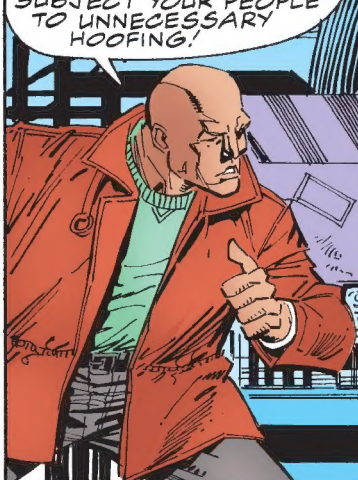


UNDUE ATTENTION?!

I'M NOT THE ONE WHO CALLED IN THE AVENGERS!

I KNOW YOU HATE THE FACT THAT I'M ONLY A SIMPLE BUSH PILOT, BUT THAT'S NO REASON TO SUBJECT YOUR PEOPLE TO UNNECESSARY HOOFING!

I DON'T HATE YOUR JOB, JOHN. I JUST WISH YOU'D SETTLE INTO A REAL CAREER, AND THAT YOUR LIFE HAD MORE DIRECTION.



AS FOR THE CRASH SITE... THAT AREA IS THICKLY FORESTED, AND I DIDN'T WANT TO ATTRACT UNDUE ATTENTION!

DOCTOR FOSTER! OUR FIELD TEAM IS REPORTING IN--!

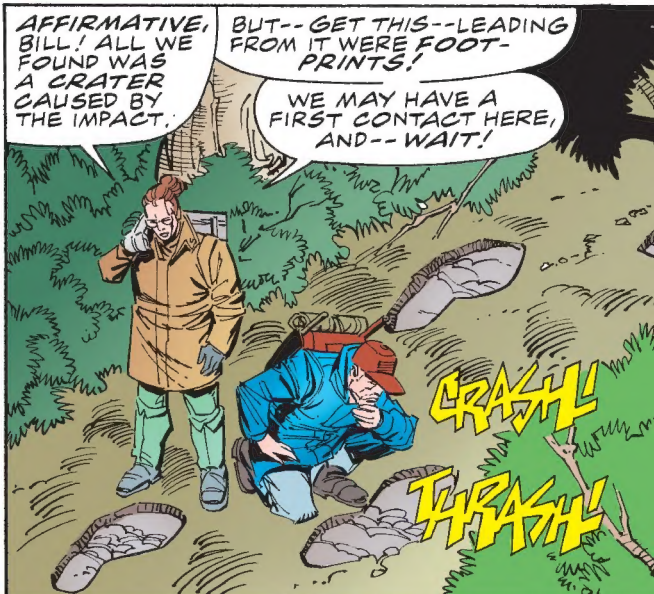
CAROL--? ARE YOU THERE?

HAVE YOU REACHED THE SITE?

AFFIRMATIVE, BILL! ALL WE FOUND WAS A CRATER CAUSED BY THE IMPACT.

BUT-- GET THIS-- LEADING FROM IT WERE FOOT-PRINTS!

WE MAY HAVE A FIRST CONTACT HERE, AND-- WAIT!



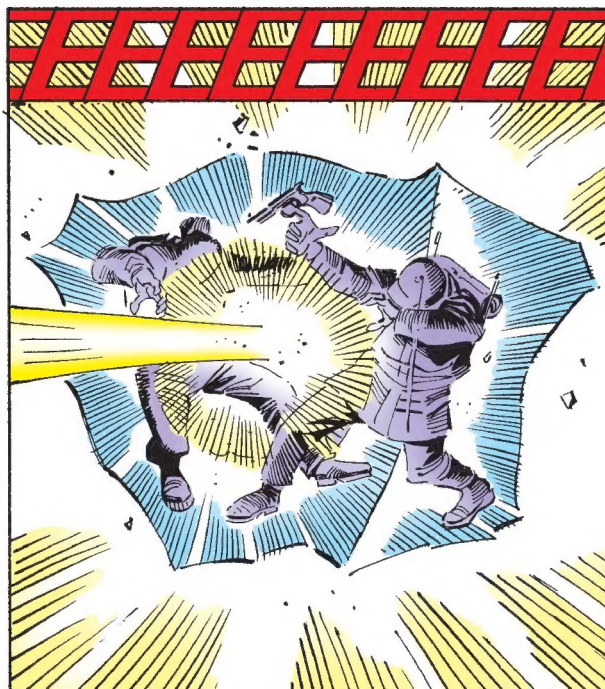
SOMETHING'S APPROACHING, BILL-- KNOCKING DOWN EVERY TREE IN ITS PATH!

I CAN'T QUITE MAKE IT OUT, BUT-- MY GOD!-- IT'S HUGE!

I'M GONNA TRY TO SCARE IT OFF!

KPOK!
KPOK!

NO, WALT-- DON'T! YOU MIGHT ANGER IT, AND--



AND, AT THAT SIMULTANEOUS MOMENT...

STRAP IN, EVERYONE! EVEN THOUGH ALL OFFICIAL AVENGER CLEARANCES HAVE LONG SINCE EXPIRED, I MANAGED TO CONVINCE THE POWERS-- THAT-BE TO ALLOW US TO FLY A SUB-ORBITAL FLIGHT PATH--

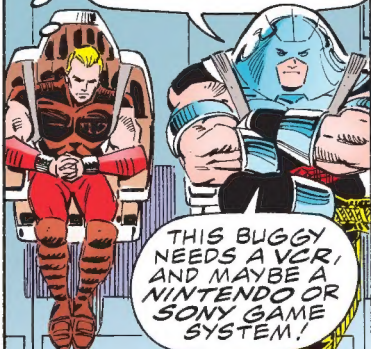


--WHICH SHOULD GET US TO OUR DESTINATION IN UNDER TWO HOURS!

SOMETIME LATER...

I WONDER IF I COULD BORROW A QUINJET SOMETIME TO VISIT MY FOLKS ON THE WEST COAST?

THIS IS SO BORRRR-INGGGG!



THIS BUGGY NEEDS A VCR, AND MAYBE A NINTENDO OR SONY GAME SYSTEM!



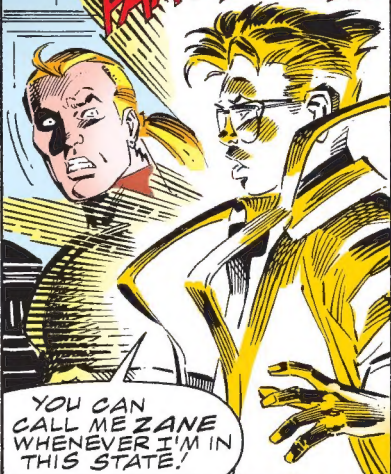
YOU MIGHT AS WELL THROW IN A HOT TUB WHILE YOU'RE AT IT!

I'M SERIOUS, STINGER! WE NEED SOMETHING TO KEEP US SHARP WHILE WE'RE-- OOPS! TIME'S UP!

W-WHAT'S HAPPENING TO YOU, JUGGIEZ?

I GUESS I SHOULD HAVE WARNED YOU FOLKS THAT I OCCASIONALLY REVERT TO MY REAL FORM.

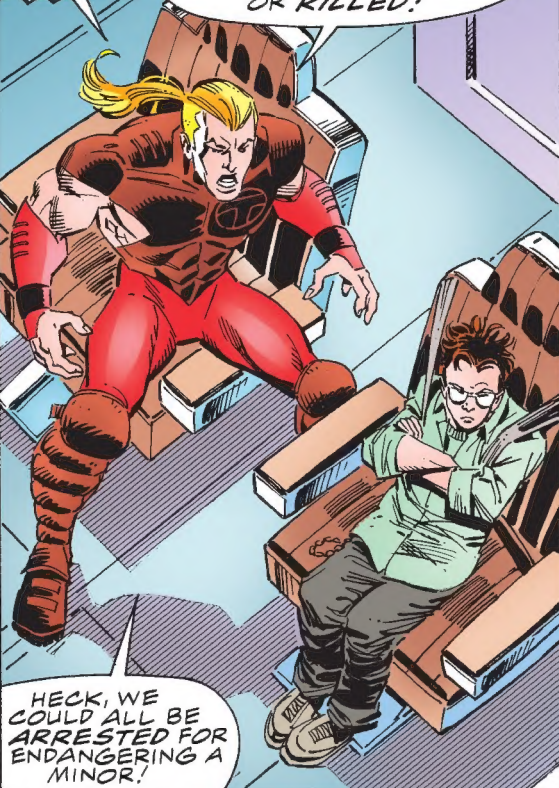
FAA-AASHH!



YOU CAN CALL ME ZANE WHENEVER I'M IN THIS STATE!

B-BUT YOU'RE JUST A KID!

I-IF WE'D KNOWN, WE WOULD NEVER HAVE ALLOWED YOU TO JOIN THE TEAM! BEING AN AVENGER ISN'T A GAME! YOU COULD BE HURT... OR KILLED!

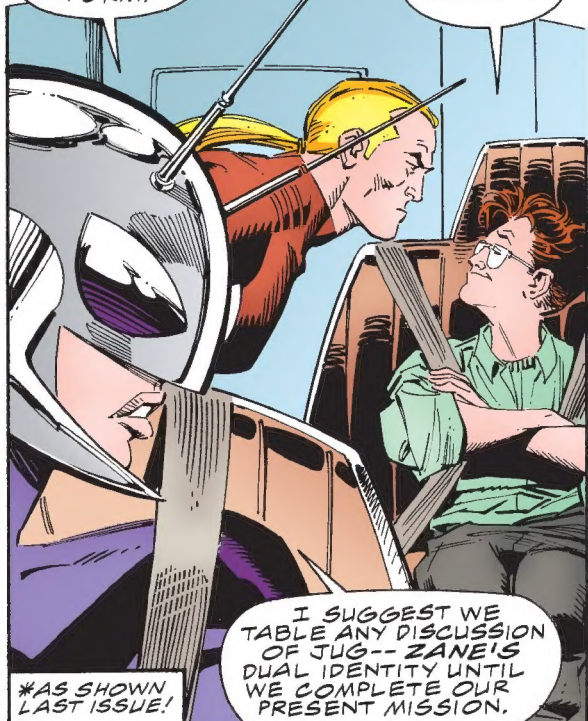


HECK, WE COULD ALL BE ARRESTED FOR ENDANGERING A MINOR!

THROTTLE BACK, STRIKE! WHATEVER HE MAY LACK IN YEARS, HE'S A LIVING POWERHOUSE IN HIS OTHER FORM!

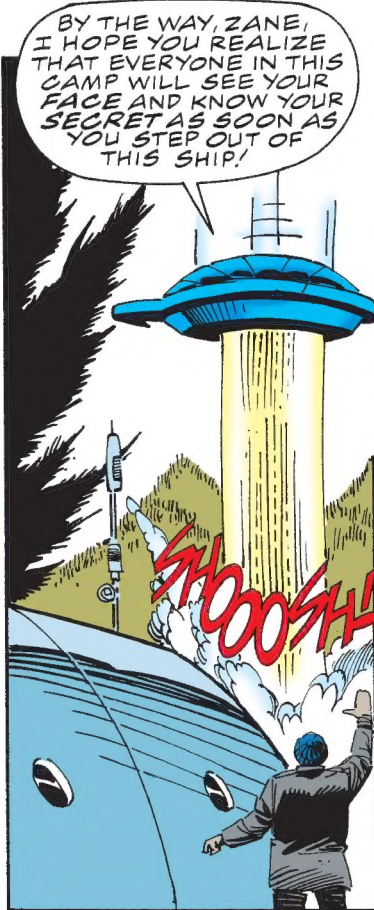
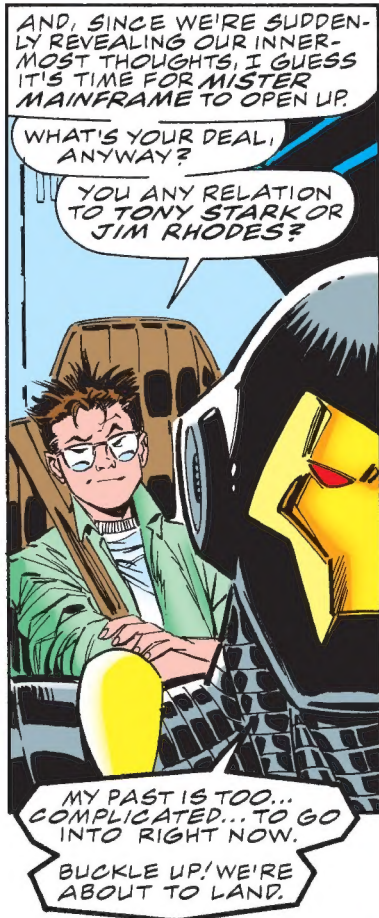
BESIDES, IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY, YOU SIGNED ON BECAUSE ALL OF US-- INCLUDING JUGGIE--RECENTLY SAVED YOUR SKIN!*

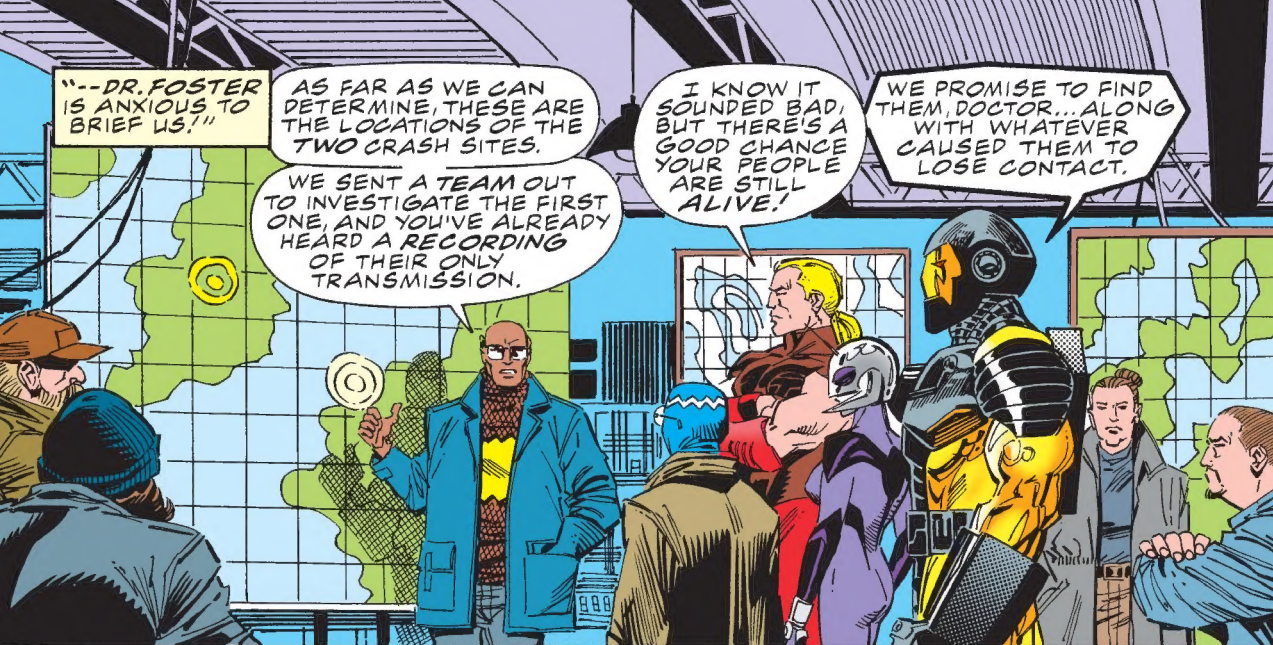
YOU'RE WELCOME!



I SUGGEST WE TABLE ANY DISCUSSION OF JUG-- ZANE'S DUAL IDENTITY UNTIL WE COMPLETE OUR PRESENT MISSION.

*AS SHOWN LAST ISSUE!





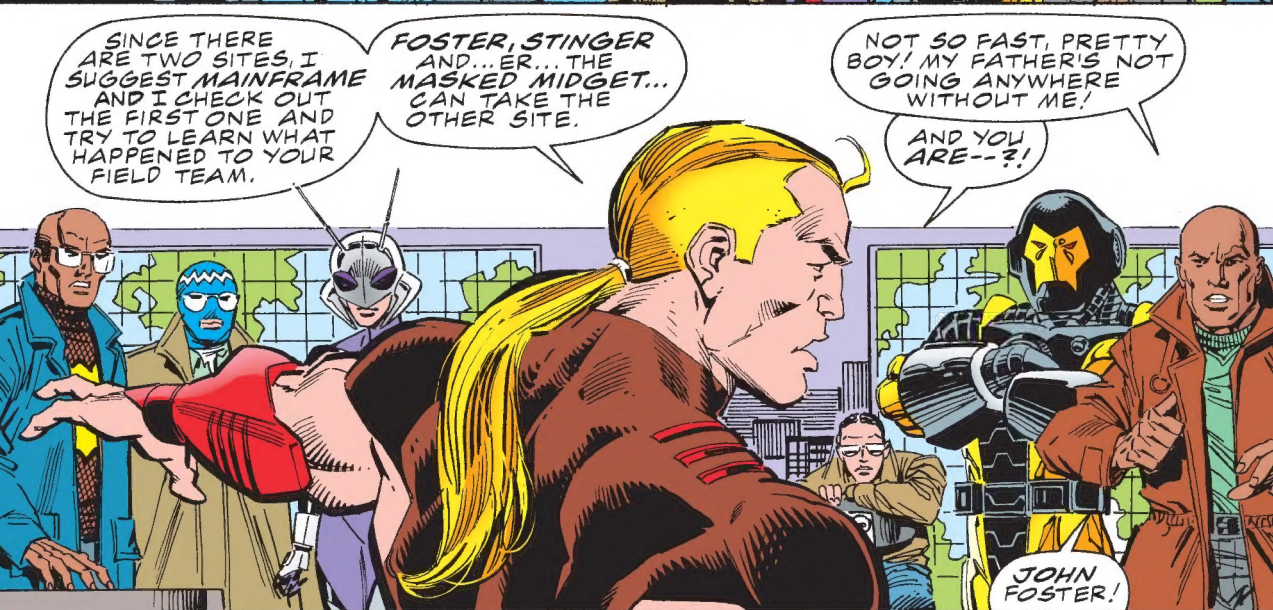
"--DR. FOSTER IS ANXIOUS TO BRIEF US."

AS FAR AS WE CAN DETERMINE, THESE ARE THE LOCATIONS OF THE TWO CRASH SITES.

WE SENT A TEAM OUT TO INVESTIGATE THE FIRST ONE, AND YOU'VE ALREADY HEARD A RECORDING OF THEIR ONLY TRANSMISSION.

I KNOW IT SOUNDED BAD, BUT THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE YOUR PEOPLE ARE STILL ALIVE!

WE PROMISE TO FIND THEM, DOCTOR... ALONG WITH WHATEVER CAUSED THEM TO LOSE CONTACT.



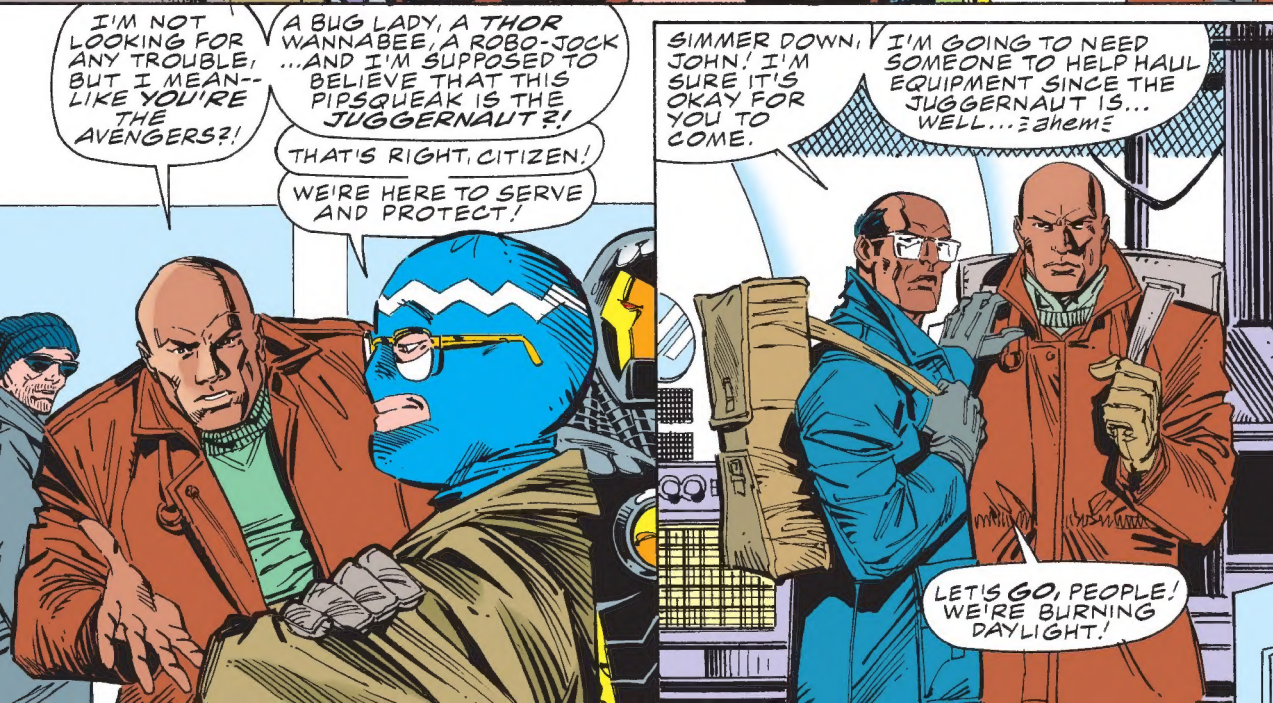
SINCE THERE ARE TWO SITES, I SUGGEST MAINFRAME AND I CHECK OUT THE FIRST ONE AND TRY TO LEARN WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR FIELD TEAM.

FOSTER, STINGER AND... ER... THE MASKED MIDGET... CAN TAKE THE OTHER SITE.

NOT SO FAST, PRETTY BOY! MY FATHER'S NOT GOING ANYWHERE WITHOUT ME!

AND YOU ARE--?!

JOHN FOSTER!



I'M NOT LOOKING FOR ANY TROUBLE, BUT I MEAN-- LIKE YOU'RE THE AVENGERS?!

A BUG LADY, A THOR WANNABEE, A ROBO-JOCK... AND I'M SUPPOSED TO BELIEVE THAT THIS PIPSQUEAK IS THE JUGGERNAUT?!

THAT'S RIGHT, CITIZEN!

WE'RE HERE TO SERVE AND PROTECT!

SIMMER DOWN, JOHN! I'M SURE IT'S OKAY FOR YOU TO COME.

I'M GOING TO NEED SOMEONE TO HELP HAUL EQUIPMENT SINCE THE JUGGERNAUT IS... WELL... *sheme*

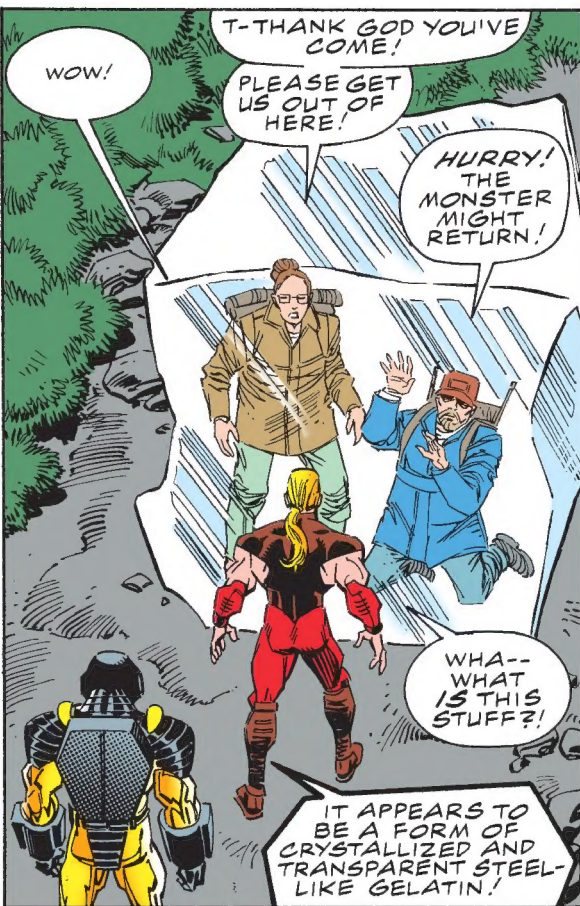
LET'S GO, PEOPLE! WE'RE BURNING DAYLIGHT!

AND SO, A FEW MINUTES LATER...

I AM AFRAID THE FOREST CANOPY IS TOO THICK FOR ME TO SPOT EITHER THE CRASH SITE OR THE FIELD TEAM FROM THE AIR, THUNDERSTRIKE!

IT WAS WORTH A SHOT, MAINFRAME!

I'M GUESSING WE SHOULD BE NEARING THEIR LAST KNOWN-- HEY! WHAT'S THAT UP AHEAD?!



WOW!

T-THANK GOD YOU'VE COME!

PLEASE GET US OUT OF HERE!

HURRY! THE MONSTER MIGHT RETURN!

WHA-- WHAT IS THIS STUFF?!

IT APPEARS TO BE A FORM OF CRYSTALLIZED AND TRANSPARENT STEEL-LIKE GELATIN!

WHATEVER!

STAND BACK, LADY! I HAVE A NEW MOVE I'VE BEEN ACHING TO TRY!

W-WILL IT FREE US?!

I HAVE TO CONCENTRATE AND TRY TO REDIRECT THE POWER I USUALLY USE FOR MY CONCUSSIVE BLASTS INTO A SERIES OF CONCENTRATED SOUND WAVES--

--WHICH SHOULD ATTACK THIS BABY'S STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY!

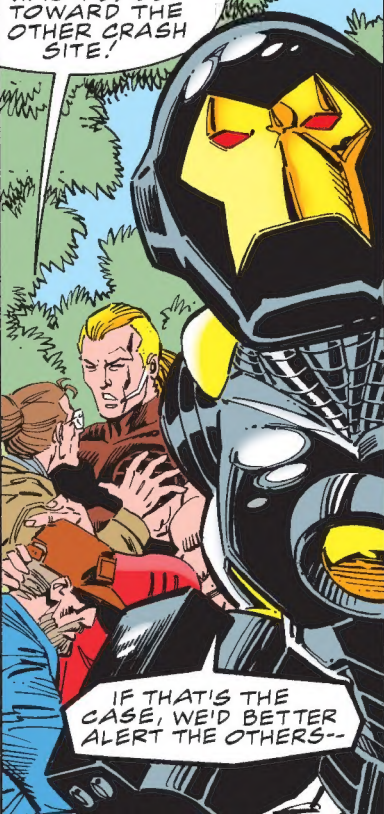
KRAKWK!

Y-YOU DID IT! YOU SAVED US!

ALL PART OF THE SERVICE, MA'AM-- BUT HOW'D YOU EVER GET TRAPPED IN THIS THING?

I... I'M NOT SURE! ALL I KNOW IS THAT SOME WEIRD RAY WAS FIRED AT US--

--BY A LARGE CREATURE WHO WAS HEADED TOWARD THE OTHER CRASH SITE!



IF THAT'S THE CASE, WE'D BETTER ALERT THE OTHERS--

THAT'S MY INTENTION, MA'AM! NOW PLEASE QUIET DOWN...

"--WHO HAVE PROBABLY REACHED THE OTHER CRASH SITE BY NOW!"

WHOA! NICE CAMOUFLAGE JOB!

NO WONDER THE DEFENSIVE GRID COULDN'T DETERMINE IF THIS WAS A SPACECRAFT OR A METEOR!

CAREFUL! EVERYONE! YOU DON'T GO TO ALL THE TROUBLE OF DISGUIISING A SHIP WHEN YOUR INTENTIONS ARE PEACEFUL.

I THINK IT'S COOL!

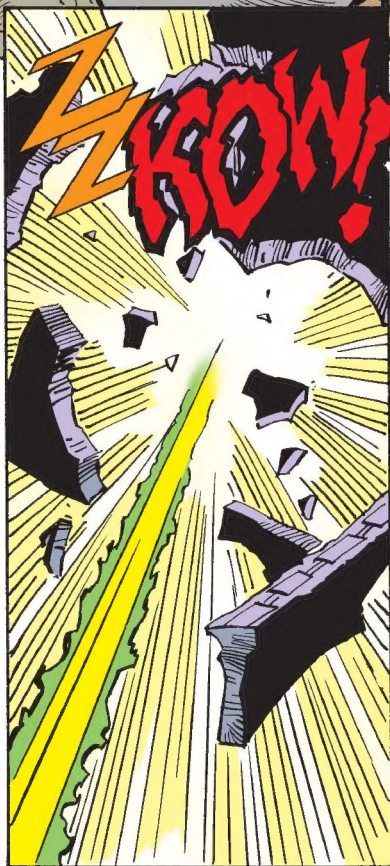
THERE'S GOT TO BE AN ENTRY POINT, BUT I DON'T SEE ANYTHING THAT LOOKS LIKE A HATCHWAY OR A CONTROL PANEL.

I'M SURE WE'D EVENTUALLY FIND ONE-- IF WE HAD THE TIME TO LOOK --BUT WE'RE ON A TIGHT SCHEDULE!

EVERYBODY TAKE COVER!

ZZZZ

I'M GOING TO POP THIS CAN!



VERY IMPRESSIVE, MISS STINGER!

AMPLIFIED SONICS, SIR-- THANKS TO A LITTLE GIZMO MY DAD WHIPPED UP IN HIS SPARE TIME!

SHOULD WE BRING THE GEAR INSIDE?

NOT UNTIL WE'RE SURE IT'S SAFE!

JUGGIE, YOU GUARD THE STUFF AND WATCH OUR BACKS!

ANY IDEA
WHAT WE'RE
FACING?

SORRY! WE DO NOT
HAVE ENOUGH INFORMATION,
YET. IT COULD BE AN ALIEN
RACE THE EARTH HAS
ALREADY ENCOUNTERED,
OR SOMETHING
TOTALLY NEW.

IT HAS BEEN YEARS
SINCE THE LAST ATTEMPTED
INVASION, AND THAT WAS
THE SKRULL INCIDENT
WHICH CONVINCED THE
GOVERNMENT TO ERECT
THE DEFENSIVE GRID!

WELL, HERE'S HOPING--
YEEOWW!!

THRKASH!

I BELIEVE
WE HAVE FOUND
THE ANSWER TO
OUR QUERIES.

I AM INTERGALACTIC
SENTRY 666!

IT IS MY DUTY
TO SECURE THE
AREA WHILE
MY MISSION
COMMANDER
GATHERS
PERTINENT
DATA!

ALL WITNESSES
MUST BE CONTAINED
OR TERMINATED!

DO NOT ATTEMPT
TO RESIST! I CANNOT
BE HARMED OR
DETERRED!

Y-YOU'RE
KIDDING,
RIGHT?

FASCINATING!

A METAL-PLATED
PREDATOR SUDDENLY
POPS OUT OF THE
WOODS, AND ALL
YOU SAY IS...
"FASCINATING!!"

IF YOU PREFER
I COULD ALSO GO
WITH... "YIKES"!!

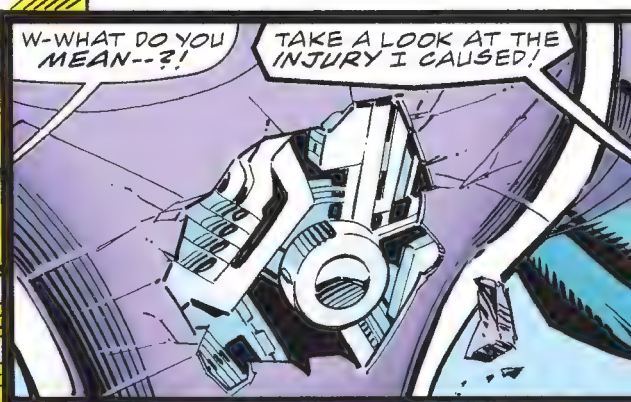


I RECOGNIZE THIS CHARACTER FROM STUDYING AVENGERS HISTORY.

HE WORKS FOR THE KREE-- A WARLIKE RACE WHICH HAS RAIDED THE EARTH IN THE PAST!

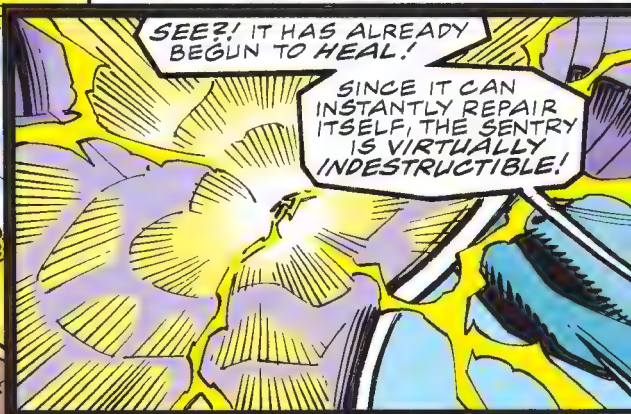
HE HAS PROBABLY COME TO ASSESS OUR CURRENT MILITARY CAPABILITIES.

AND THAT'S THE GOOD NEWS--!



W-WHAT DO YOU MEAN--?!

TAKE A LOOK AT THE INJURY I CAUSED!



SEER! IT HAS ALREADY BEGUN TO HEAL!

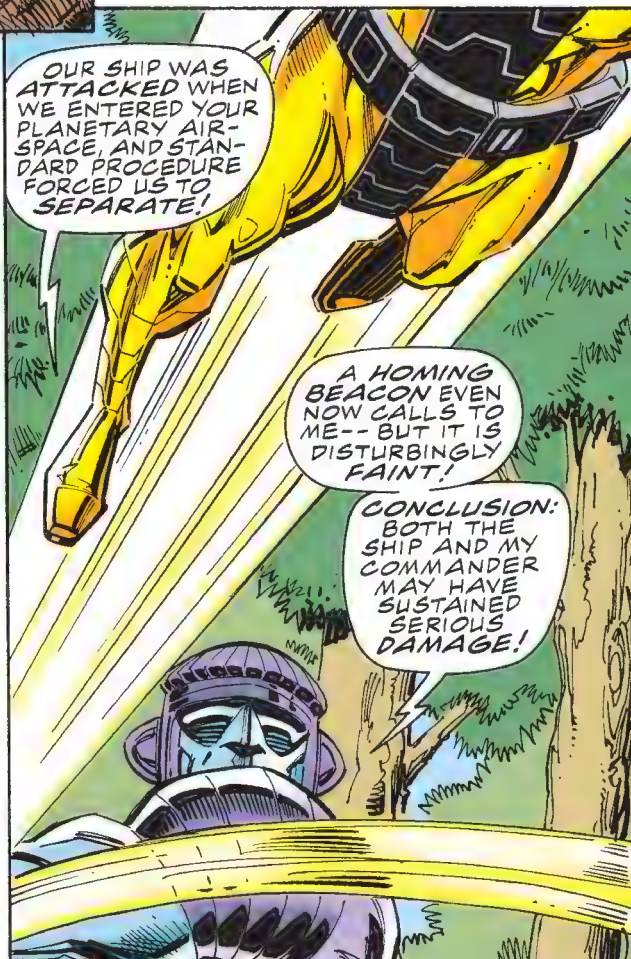
SINCE IT CAN INSTANTLY REPAIR ITSELF, THE SENTRY IS VIRTUALLY INDESTRUCTIBLE!



INCORRECT! I AM COMPLETELY INDESTRUCTIBLE!

==UHHH!==

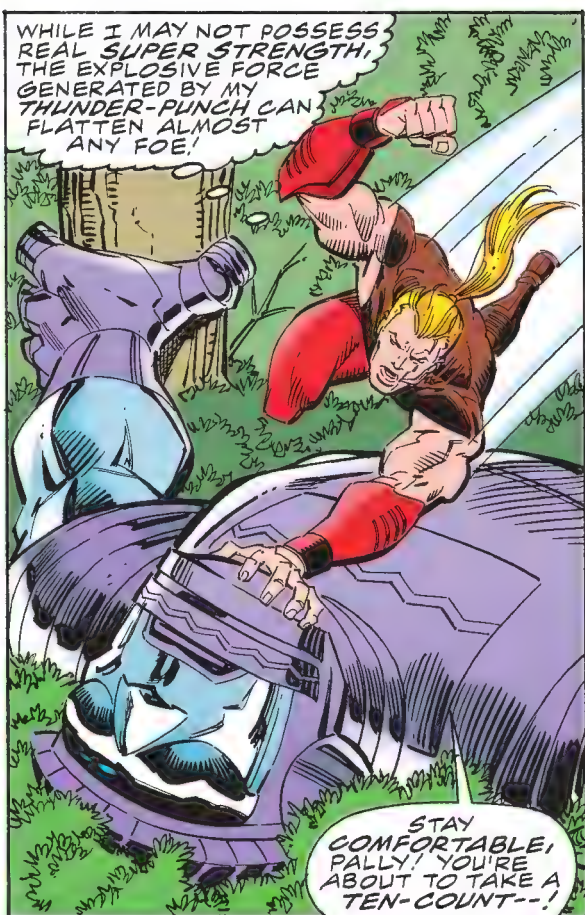
I BEAR YOU NO MALICE, BUT I MUST REUNITE WITH MY MISSION COMMANDER!



OUR SHIP WAS ATTACKED WHEN WE ENTERED YOUR PLANETARY AIRSPACE, AND STANDARD PROCEDURE FORCED US TO SEPARATE!

A HOMING BEACON EVEN NOW CALLS TO ME-- BUT IT IS DISTURBINGLY FAINT!

CONCLUSION: BOTH THE SHIP AND MY COMMANDER MAY HAVE SUSTAINED SERIOUS DAMAGE!



IS HE REALLY?! COOL!
DON'T YOU WORRY
PARTNER! I'LL BE
READY AND
WAITING!

W-WHAT IS
IT, SON? IS
SOMETHING
WRONG?

SHOULD
I CALL
STINGER?
I HOPE
YOU'RE NOT
PLANNING
TO-- THAT
GLOW!

NOTHING TO
WORRY ABOUT, DOCTOR
FOSTER! EVERYTHING'S
COOL!

THERE'S
A BAD GUY
THAT NEEDS
STOMPIN'--

--AND
STOMPIN'S MY
SPECIALTY!

Uhhh...

SORRY
FOR DOUBTING
YOU!

NO
PROBLEM!

MEANWHILE,
INSIDE THE
ALIEN
CRAFT...

THE PILOT LOOKS LIKE
HE DIED ON IMPACT.

I DOUBT HE
MEANT THE EARTH
ANY GOOD, BUT
I STILL FEEL
FOR HIM.

--BUT THE
MAIN
COMPUTER
APPEARS
TO BE
BIONIC IN
NATURE!

I'M GUESSING THIS INPUT
DEVICE FED THE INFORMATION
DIRECTLY INTO THE PILOT'S
NERVOUS SYSTEM!

CAN ONE
OF US PLUG
INTO IT?

LOOKS LIKE HE
WAS ON A SCOUTING
MISSION TO GAUGE
OUR PLANET'S
VULNERABILITIES.

I WISH I COULD FIGURE
OUT A WAY TO DOWNLOAD
THE SHIP'S CLASSIFIED FILES--

TOO DANGEROUS!
SINCE I HAVE NO
EXPERIENCE WITH KREE
PHYSIOLOGY, I CAN'T EVEN
IMAGINE HOW IT WOULD
AFFECT A HUMAN!



MOVE IN, 'STRIKE!
WE HAVE TO BUY
THE OTHERS AS
MUCH TIME AS
POSSIBLE!

OBSERVATION:
YOUR EFFORTS
ARE DOOMED TO
FAIL!

YEAH, YEAH, WE'VE
ALREADY HEARD HOW YOU'RE
PRACTICALLY INVINCIBLE--!



INCREDIBLE! I HAVE
BEEN TOPPLED!

TOONK!
TOONK!

YO, BUD!
THAT'S THE
DOWNSIDE
OF MESSIN'
WITH THE
AVENGERS!

AND, BY
THE WAY--



TOO BAD
THE GROUND
BENEATH YOU
IS WAAAAAY
SUSCEPTIBLE
TO A FEW
WELL-AIMED
THUNDER-
BLASTS!

KWOOM!



NICE
HAT!

SPATAW!

CRASH! BAM!

SNAP!

SNAP!

SNAP!

KATOOOONGG!

W-WHAT
THE--?!

I-IT FEELS
LIKE THE SHIP'S
BEEN STRUCK BY
SOME KIND OF
MISSILE!

YOU TWO
STAY PUT
WHILE I
SEE WHAT
CAUSED
THAT
JOLT!

OHMIGOSH!
THIS MUST
BE THE
SENTRY--
BUT WHAT'S
IT DOING
HERE?!

I THOUGHT
ZANE WAS
SUPPOSED TO--
ZANE!

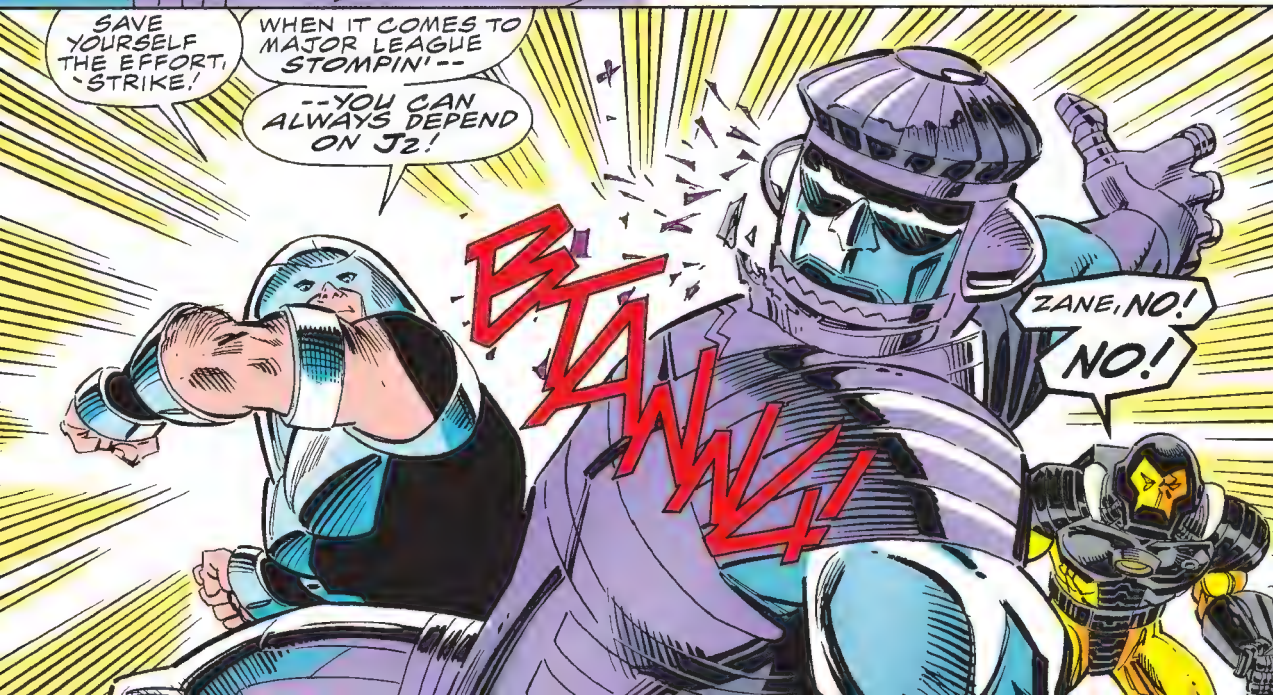
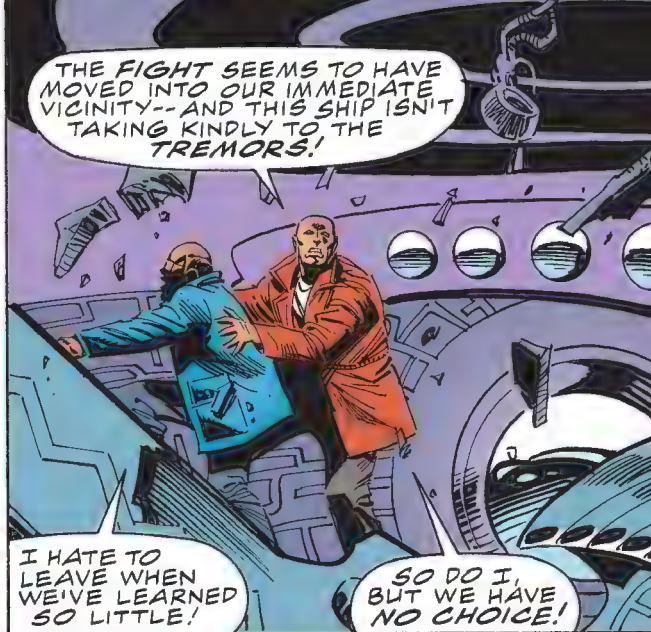
I REALLLLY
HAVE TO TALK
TO THAT BOY
ABOUT HIS
AIM!

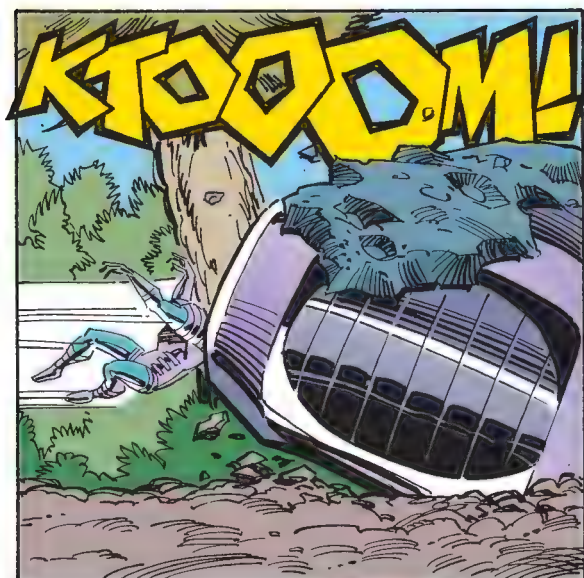
PHASE ONE OF
MY MISSION IS
ACCOMPLISHED!
I HAVE REUNITED
WITH MY SHIP!

BZZK!

GOODY FOR YOU!

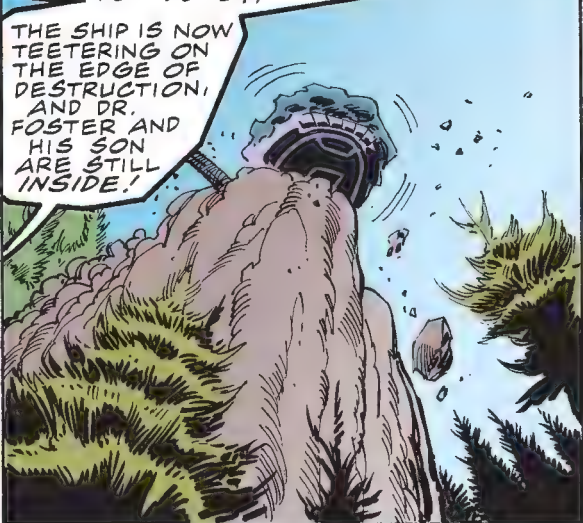
UNFORTUNATELY, I'VE GROWN
RATHER FOND OF IT IN YOUR ABSENCE,
AND FINDERS KEEPERS!





ZANE! ZANE! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?!

THE SHIP IS NOW
TEETERING ON
THE EDGE OF
DESTRUCTION,
AND DR.
FOSTER AND
HIS SON
ARE STILL
INSIDE!



JOHN! THAT LAST
IMPACT MUST HAVE
SET OFF THE SHIP'S
SECURITY SYSTEM!

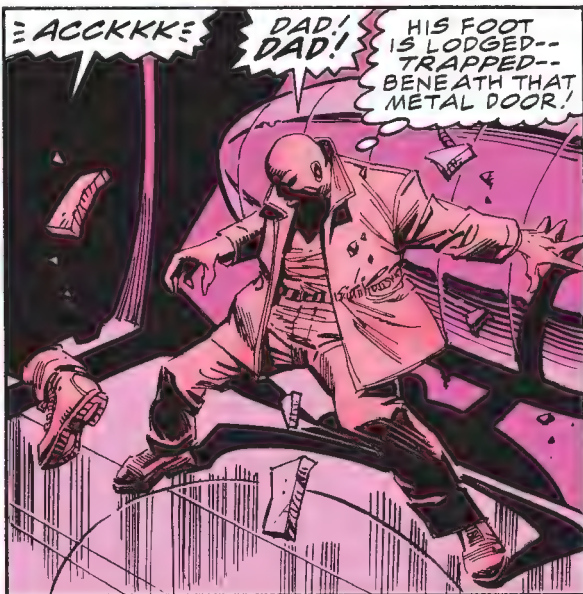
THE BULKHEADS
ARE SUDDENLY
SLAMMING
DOWN!



ACCKKKK!

DAD!
DAD!

HIS FOOT
IS LODGED--
TRAPPED--
BENEATH THAT
METAL DOOR!



URRRGGG!

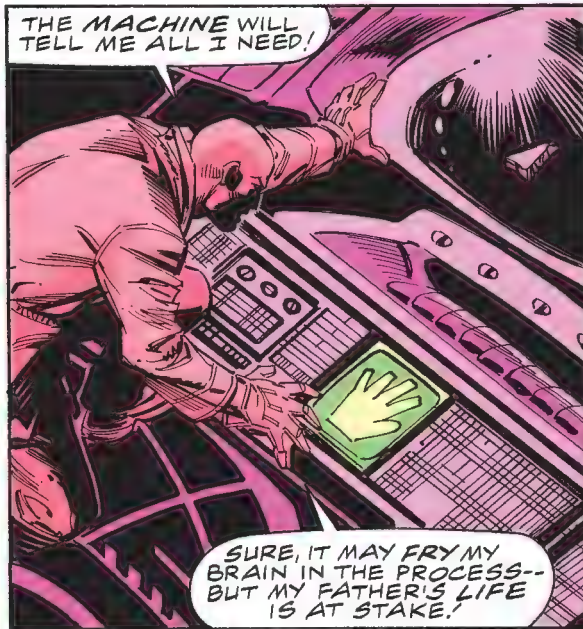
I-IT'S NO
USE! THE
DOOR WON'T
BUDGE!

THERE MUST BE A WAY
TO OVERRIDE IT! IF
ONLY I KNEW HOW TO
--OF COURSE!

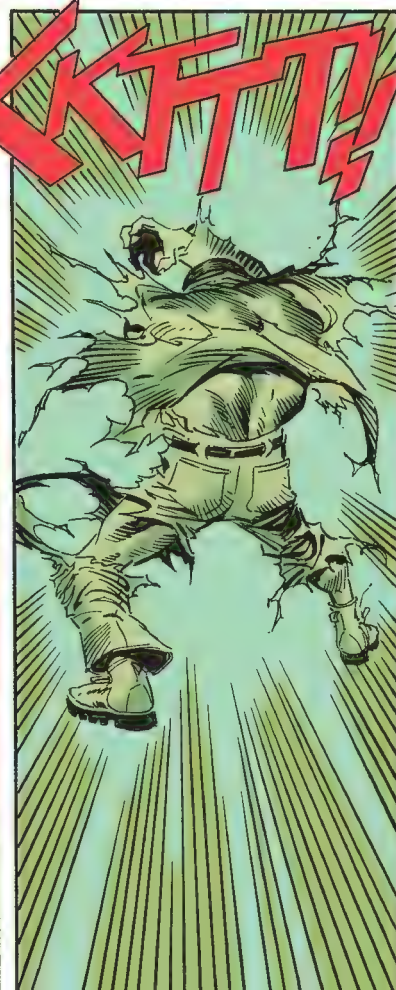
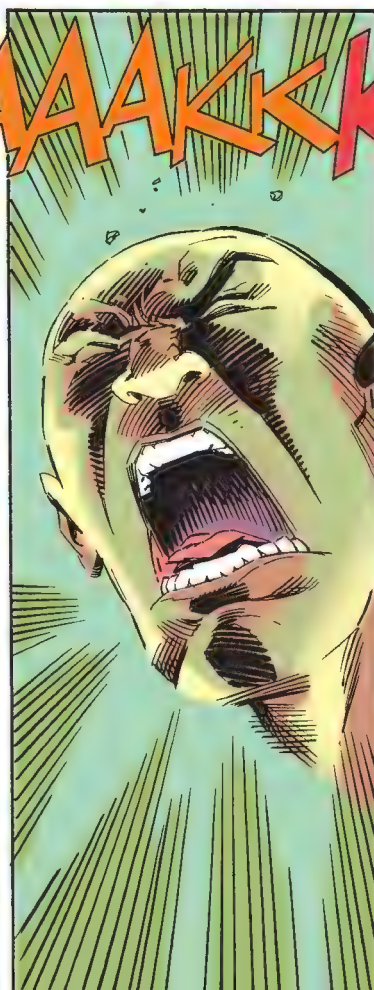
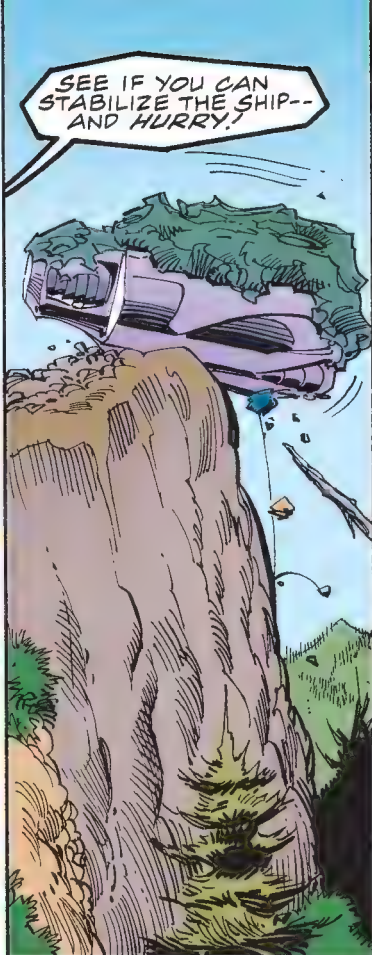
I CAN'T SIT ON MY
HANDS, WAITING AND
PRAYING FOR THE
AVENGERS TO
SAVE US!

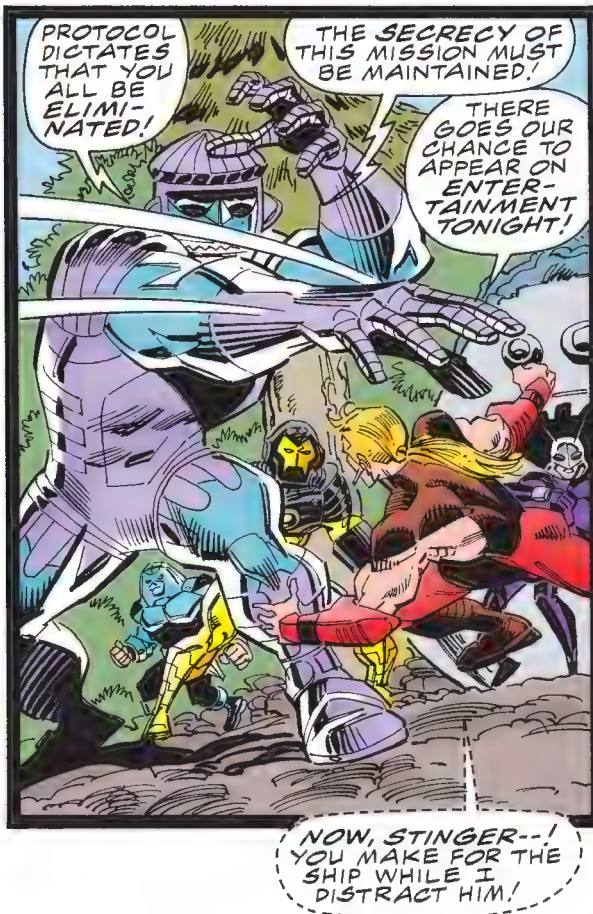


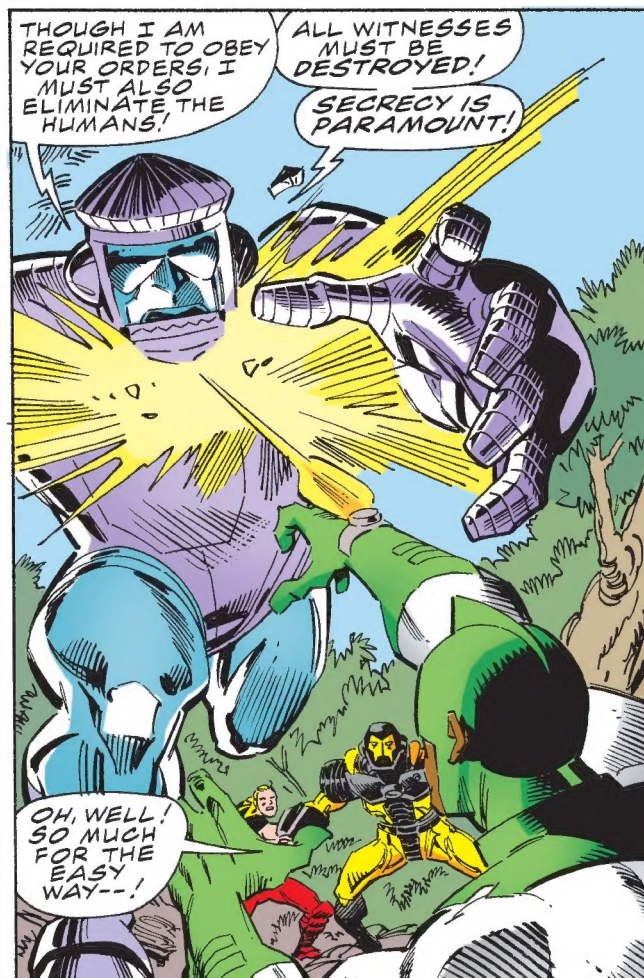
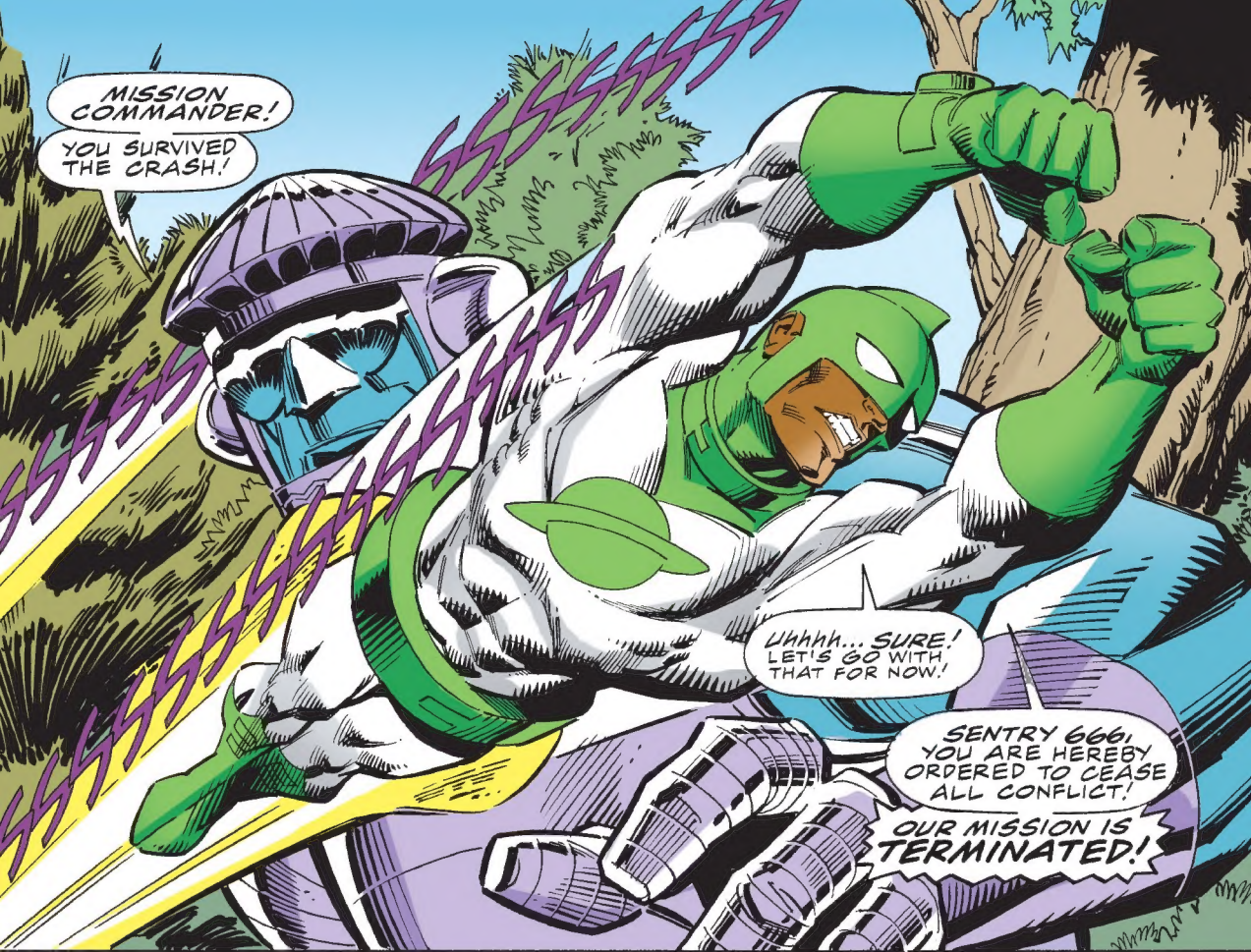
THE MACHINE WILL
TELL ME ALL I NEED!



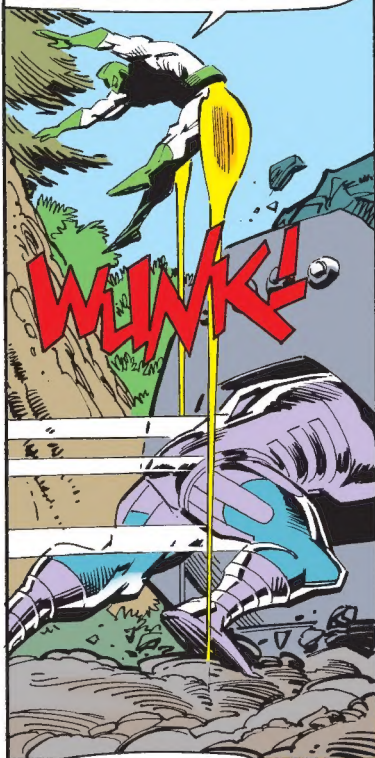
SURE, IT MAY FRY MY
BRAIN IN THE PROCESS--
BUT MY FATHER'S LIFE
IS AT STAKE!



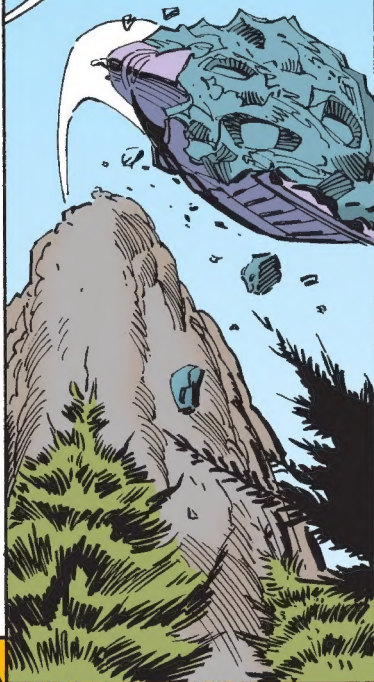




YOU KNOW, CHUCKLES? I'M
ALMOST GLAD YOU DIDN'T
FALL FOR MY SORRY ACT!

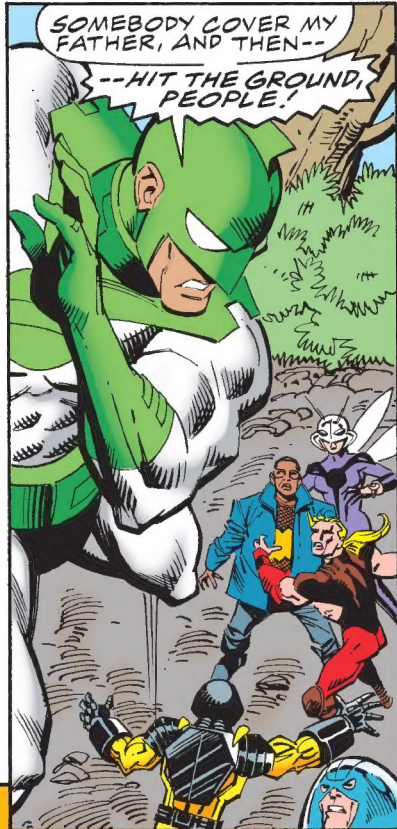


IT GIVES ME A CHANCE
TO SHOW YOU HOW
WE DO THINGS
DOWNTOWN!

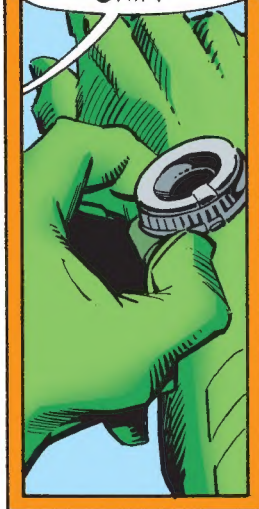


SOMEBODY COVER MY
FATHER, AND THEN--

--HIT THE GROUND,
PEOPLE!

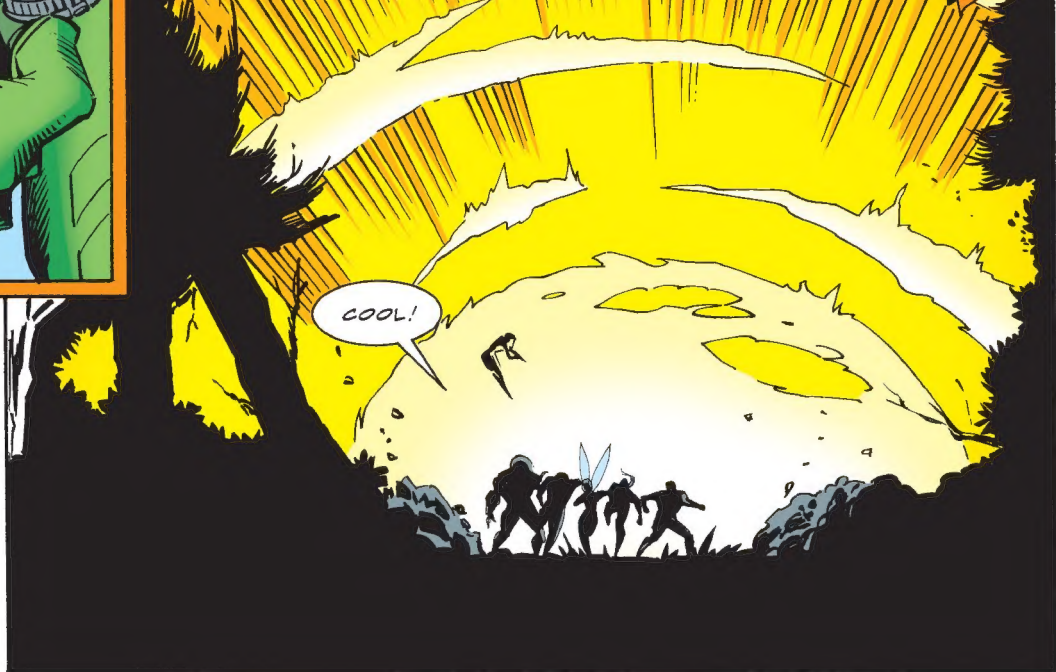


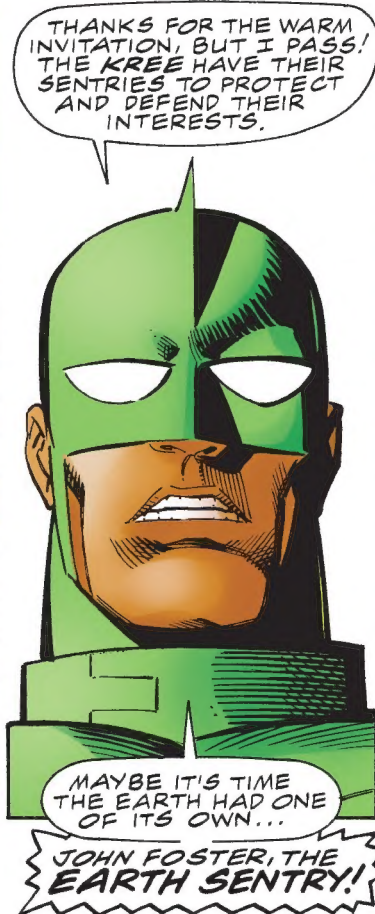
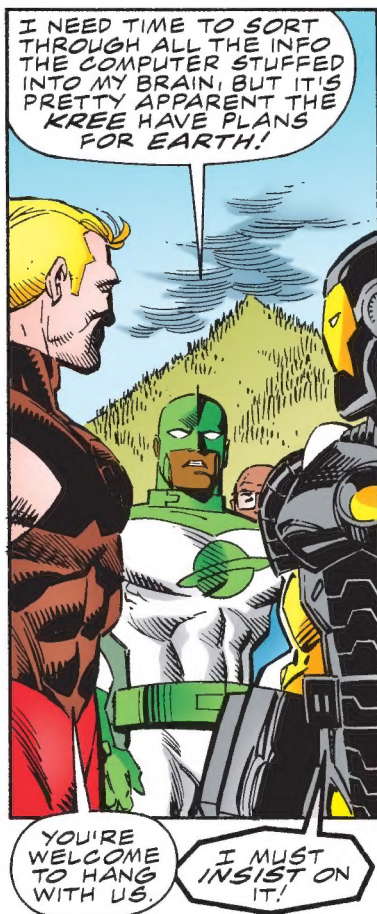
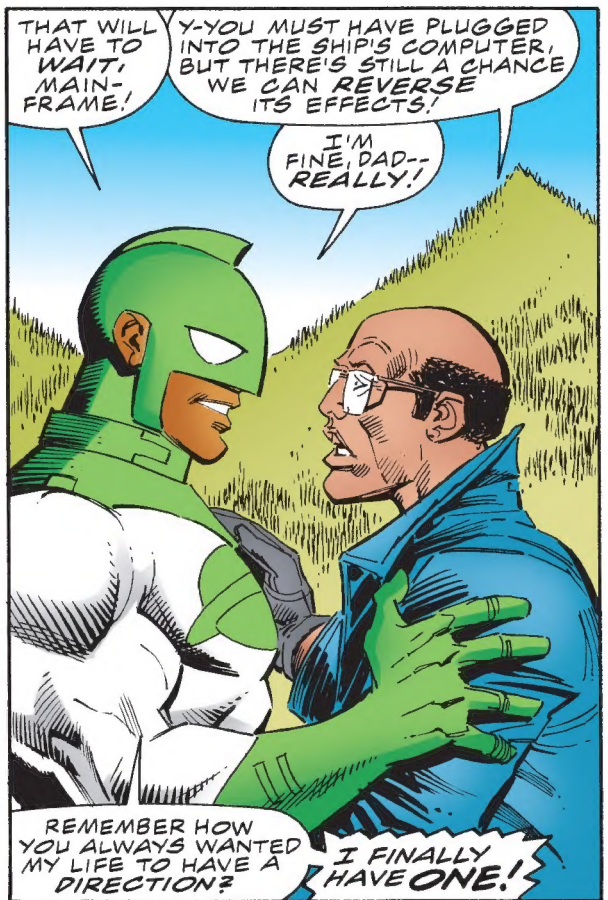
I'M GOING TO
SEND A L'LIL OL'
SELF-DESTRUCT
SIGNAL TO MY...
ERRRR... THE KREE
SHIP!



SHRILLUM!

COOL!





Shadowcat

